

Message Text

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WELLINGTON FOR CODEL JEFFORDS

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TAGS: OREP (JEFFORDS, JAMES M.)
SUBJ: CODEL JEFFORDS

REF: (A) STATE 280026, (B) JAKARTA 15704

1. SUMMARY. IN HEAVILY PROGRAMMED SIXTEEN-DAY VISIT TO INDONESIA AS GUEST OF CENTER FOR STRATEGIC AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES (CSIS), REPRESENTATIVE JAMES M. JEFFORDS OF VERMONT MET TWICE WITH PRESIDENT SUHARTO, CALLED ON SEVERAL KEY MINISTERS AND HIGH MILITARY OFFICIALS, VISITED DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT PROJECTS IN WEST JAVA, CENTRAL JAVA, KALIMANTAN AND NORTH SUMATRA, GAVE PUBLIC LECTURE AND PARTICIPATED IN CSIS SEMINAR. CONGRESSMAN JEFFORDS EXPRESSED SATISFACTION OVER INSIGHTS HE HAD GAINED INTO INDONESIAN PROBLEMS AND OVER OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED HIM TO SPEAK OF CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN HUMAN RIGHTS, ENERGY AND OTHER ISSUES. HIS HOSTS SEEMED VERY PLEASED THAT THEY WERE ABLE TO PROVIDE CONGRESSMAN WIDER EXPOSURE TO INDONESIAN SOCIETY THAT THAT GENERALLY OBTAINED DURING CODEL VISITS. END SUMMARY.

2. SHORTLY AFTER HIS ARRIVAL ON DECEMBER 16, CONGRESSMAN JEFFORDS AND HIS STAFF ASSISTANTS GEORGE DUNSMORE AND DIANA SLAYTON MET WITH PRESIDENTIAL ASSISTANT AND CSIS HONORARY CO-UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 JAKART 16395 210645Z

CHAIRMAN MAJOR GENERAL SUDJONO HUMARDANI, CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE COMMAND FOR THE RESTORATION OF SECURITY AND ORDER ADMIRAL SUDOMO, AND DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF FOR INTELLIGENCE MAJOR GENERAL MURDANI. THE PARTY LATER ALSO SAW PRESIDENTIAL ASSISTANT AND CSIS HONORARY CO-CHAIRMAN LIUTENANT GENERAL ALI MURTOPO, WHEN LATTER RETURNED FROM

EUROPE, AND DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CHIEF OF STAFF GENERAL SURONO. IN THESE MEETINGS WITH KEY MILITARY FIGURES CONGRESSMAN JEFFORDS EXPLAINED INTER-ALIA CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTION. IN TALKS WITH ADMIRAL SUDOMO IN PARTICULAR HE WELCOMED LATTER'S ANNOUNCEMENT OF PROJECTED RELEASE OF PKI DETAINEES EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF GOI BEING ABLE TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THEY WILL IN FACT ENJOY PHYSICAL FREEDOM.

3. AS REPORTED REF B, CONGRESSMAN JEFFORDS FIRST CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT SUHARTO DECEMBER 5 ALSO TOUCHED ON PRISONER ISSUE. PRESIDENT INVITED CONGRESSMAN JEFFORDS AND PARTY TO SPEND MORNING OF DECEMBER 17 WITH HIM AT HIS RANCH NEAR BOGOR. MRS. JEFFORDS, MRS. DUNSMORE AND MISS SLAYTON, ACCOMPANIED BY MRS. NEWSOM, WERE RECEIVED BY MRS. SUHARTO ON DECEMBER 15.

4. CONGRESSMAN JEFFORDS MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER ADAM MALIK ON DECEMBER 3, AND ON DECEMBER 16 WITH MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE SYARIEF THAYEB, MINISTER OF STATE FOR ECONOMIC FINANCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL AFFAIRS WIDJOJO NITISASTRO, SECRETARY GENERAL OF DEPARTMENT OF MINES SIGIT, AND CHAIRMAN OF DEPARTMENT FOR SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION (BOLOG) BUSTANIL ARIFIN. ENERGY PROBLEMS, US ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS IN GENERAL AND PL-480 PROGRAMS IN PARTICULAR WERE AMONG MATTERS DISCUSSED IN THESE MEETINGS. DINNERS HOSTED BY GENERAL MURTOPO, GENERAL HUMARDANI, GENERAL MURDANI AND THE AMBASSADOR PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH OTHER INDONESIAN OFFICIALS AND FOREIGN DIPLOMATS INCLUDING THE AUSTRALIAN AND JAPANESE DCMS.

5. DECEMBER 6-7 CONGRESSMAN JEFFORDS AND PARTY TRAVELED TO UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 JAKARTA 16395 210645Z

BANDUNG AND YOGJAKARTA WHERE THEY SAW DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY PLANNING PROJECTS AND TALKED WITH STAFF OF BANDUNG TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE AND GAJAH MADA UNIVERSITY. THE PARTY SPENT DECEMBER 9-11 IN EAST KALIMANTAN WHERE THEY VISITED LNG, OIL AND FORESTY PROJECTS, INCLUDING THE WEYERHAUSER LUMBER CONCESSION. IN NORTH SUMATRA FROM DECEMBER 12-14 THE PARTY WAS SHOWN THE ASAHDAN HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT, PLANTATIONS, AND LAKE TOBA. IN MEDAN THEY TALKED WITH PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS AS WELL AS LEADERSHIP OF NORTH SUMATRA AND ACEH UNIVERSITIES.

6. CONGRESSMAN JEFFORDS SPOKE ON ENERGY PROBLEMS AT A PUBLIC LECTURE AT CSIS ON DECEMBER 15 AND LATER IN DAY PARTICIPATED IN A CSIS SEMINAR ON US-INDONESIAN RELATIONS. IN LATER FORUM CONGRESSMAN JEFFORDS REASSURED INDO-NESIANS THAT CRISES IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD DID NOT LEAD US CONGRESSIONAL AND EXECUTIVE BRANCHES TO LOSE SIGHT OF US NATIONAL INTERESTS IN SEA AND INDONESIA IN PARTICULAR.

(COMMENT: THIS IS A RECURRENT THEME OF GOI OFFICIALS IN
DISCUSSIONS OF FUTURE FOREIGN POLICY.)

7. AFTER ONE-DAY REST STOP IN BALI CONGRESSMAN JEFFORDS AND
PARTY LEFT INDONESIA ON DECEMBER 18 FOR NEW ZEALAND. THEIR
VISIT HAS RECEIVED EXTENSIVE AND FAVORABLE PRESS PLAY.

8. FOREGOING NOT CLEARED WITH CONGRESSMAN.
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